GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:746
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2004
SCHEME FOR UNEMPLOYED AGRICULTURE GRADUATE
Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan;Vijay Krishna Shri

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to start a new scheme in cooperation with Banks for unemployed Agriculture Graduates;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of Agriculture Graduates who pass out every year in the country and the number who get jobs in the Agriculture Sector; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check the brain drain of Agriculture Graduates to other Sectors?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): No, Sir. However, the government is already implementing a Central Sector Scheme on Establishment of Agri-clinic & Agri-Business Centres by agriculture graduates in cooperation with the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC) and National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE) during the 10th Plan with effect from 2002-03.

(b): Scheme of Agri-clinic and Agri-business Centres was launched on 9th April,2002. The objective of the Scheme is to provide fee-based extension and other services to the farming community and also to create self-employment opportunities for agriculture graduates.

The agriculture graduates are provided training in agri-business development for two month in over 67 institutions in public/private sector located throughout the country and coordinated by MANAGE. Those institutions also provide handholding support to the trained graduates for a period of one year. The entire cost of training and handholding is being borne by the Government of India. Trained graduates are expected to set up Agri-clinic and Agri-business Centres with the help of bank finance.

(c): The number of agriculture graduates who pass out every year in the country varies from year to year in the range of 9,000-10,000. As per study conducted by the Institute of Applied Manpower Research, 43% of agriculture graduates were unemployed (IAMR 2000)

(d): As at (b) above.